

# **Route 248/Route 65 Diverging Diamond Interchange in Branson:**

## **Traffic Shift and Lane Closings on Route 248 To Cause Delays**

**Branson, Taney County** -- A new traffic shift and lane closings on Route 248 at Route 65 in Branson will cause delays at the busy interchange beginning Tuesday, Sept. 27, the Missouri Department of Transportation said.

The new traffic pattern will remain in effect until late October. This shift will enable crews to widen the Route 248 bridge and repair and resurface the deck on the existing bridge.

### **Here's a look at the work schedule:**

\* Tuesday, Sept. 27 into mid-October -- Route 248 traffic will be shifted to the north side of the bridge. The center turn-lane will be closed to accommodate eastbound traffic. Westbound drivers will have to make right turns and left turns from the through lanes of traffic. Eastbound drivers will have a designated right-turn lane to go southbound on Route 65 but will have to make left turns to go northbound from the through lane.

\* Mid-October into late October -- Route 248 traffic will be shifted toward the south side of the bridge. The center turn-lane will remain closed so that westbound through traffic can use the closed turn lane. Eastbound drivers will have a designated right-turn lane to go south on Route 65. All other turns will have to be made from the through lanes.

During the work, drivers on Route 248 will experience more traffic congestion and longer delays.

Drivers WILL be able to reach their destinations using Route 248, including many nearby businesses, but it may take longer to get there.

### **Project Background**

The interchange will be converted to a Diverging Diamond Interchange. Construction involves:

\* Widening the Route 248 bridge by 10-feet to allow for three lanes across the bridge when the project is complete; two lanes eastbound and one lane westbound.

\* Repairing the existing Route 248 bridge and resurfacing the bridge deck.

\* Widening the southbound Route 65 off-ramp to Route 248 to include dual right- and dual left-turn lanes.

\* Installing new traffic signals and street lighting.

The prime contractor on the Route 248/Route 65 project in Branson is APAC-Missouri of Columbia, doing the work for a low-bid amount of \$5 million. Scheduled completion: late December 2011.

**END**

(For more information, call MoDOT at 895-7600. Or visit [www.modot.org/southwest](http://www.modot.org/southwest) .)

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